REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 39-47 have been added by way of the present amendment, and Claims 1-38 have been cancelled. Each new claim is supported by the specification and claims as originally submitted and no new matter has been added.

Please cancel Claims 1-38 without prejudice.

Consequently, no further issues are believed to be outstanding, and it is respectfully submitted that this case is in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

REED SMITH LLP

Dated: Feb 11, 200 4

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